

REMARKS

Claims 2-4, 10-12, 16, 19 and 21-23 are pending in the present application. As will be discussed below, Claims 9, 13, 14 and 15 have been cancelled. The specification has been amended to correct an obvious typographical error. Accordingly, no new matter has been added. Accordingly, entry of the present Amendment is requested.

Claims 9, 13-16, 19 and 21-22 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. In addition, Claims 13-16, 19, 21 and 22 have been rejected as allegedly incomplete in the absence of a recovery step for the product produced.

Applicants respectfully traverse both of these rejections for the following reasons.

Applicants respectfully submit that the process recited in independent Claim 16 is definite of one of ordinary skill in the art. Further, the reaction mixture obtained by the process as claimed in Claim 16, which contains the desired product *per se*, can itself be utilized in a subsequent chemical process without an isolation step. Applicants respectfully submit that such a possibility is within the scope of the present invention. Accordingly, it would not be appropriate to cite an isolation step in independent Claim 16.

In addition, as mentioned above, the specification as been amended to correct obvious errors. In particular, Applicants have noticed that "amino acid transferase" should read "aminotransferase" throughout the description of the claims. In the process of the present invention, a transferred group is an amino group not amino acid and aminotransferase is an established term. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that this is a clerical error which does not introduce new matter. Applicants have corrected this error in the claims and specification.


AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
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In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the present claimed invention is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, an issuance of a prompt Notice of Allowance is requested.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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